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| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | | Application Number | 10/594,720 |
| | | Filing Date | September 26, 2006 |
| | | First Named Inventor | Isamu KOYAMA et al. |
| | | Group Art Unit | Unknown |
| | | Examiner Name | Unknown |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 4 | Attorney Docket Number | 740819-1160 |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration and Power of Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Corrected Filing Receipt with Enclosures <input type="checkbox"/> A self-addressed prepaid postcard for acknowledging receipt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Copy of three (3) references listed. |
| Remarks | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2380 for the above identified docket number. |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | |
|--|--|
| Firm or Individual name | Donald R. Studebaker, Registration No. 32,815 Nixon Peabody LLP 401 9 th Street, N.W. Suite 900 Washington, D.C. 20004-2128 |
| Signature | |
| Date | November 27, 2006 |



Docket No: 740819-1160
Serial No: 10/594,720

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Isamu KOYAMA et al.)
Application No. 10/594,720) Art Unit: Unknown
Filed: September 29, 2006) Confirmation No. Unknown
For: DEVICE FOR SUPPORTING...)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the accompanying information is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed. However, copies of the listed U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed since it is no longer required according to the July 11, 2003 waiver of the requirement for copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications in national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and international applications entering the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. Since these documents are being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), no fee or statement is required.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the

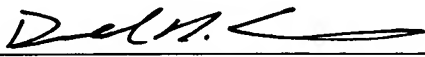


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documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this filing which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Donald R. Studebaker
Registration No. 32,815

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Date: November 27, 2006



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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | Complete if Known | |
| | | | | Application Number | 10/594,720 |
| | | | | Filing Date | September 29, 2006 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Isamu KOYAMA et al. |
| | | | | Art Unit | Not Yet Assigned |
| Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned | | | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 740819-1160 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number - Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | JP 07-051221 | 02-28-1995 | YAMAMOTO et al. | | AB |
| | | JP 55-116334A | 09-06-1980 | | | FULL |
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| OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.